

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND PROCESS SEVENTH EDITION

This comprehensive text provides a thorough analysis of the values and beliefs that have shaped American foreign policy, exploring how they have evolved over time. Through exploration of presidential administrations from the end of World War II to the present day, *American Foreign Policy and Process* provides an extensive comparison of policy making processes during the Cold War, after Vietnam, and after 9/11.

This new edition provides a current evaluation of the Trump and Biden administrations, including updates to reflect the current changes in the actions of important domestic foreign policy institutions. A series of chapters provides assessments of the role of governmental actors and non-governmental actors in affecting the direction of foreign policy. Featuring supportive maps, key documents, figures, and tables, students will examine the history of American foreign policy and how it has evolved over time, with emphasis on comparing the changing approaches of administrations from Nixon through Biden.

James M. McCormick, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, taught at Iowa State University for over four decades. He has published *American Foreign Policy and Process* (six editions), co-edited *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy* (seven editions), and has had articles published in *World Politics*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, and many more. He has been the recipient of numerous academic awards including the ISU Foundation Award for Outstanding Research at Mid-Career, Fulbright Senior Award, and the ISU International Service Award.

American Foreign Policy and Process

Seventh Edition

James M. McCormick

Iowa State University



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

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To the memory of Mary, Bill, Roger, Janet, and Monica

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Preface

The seventh edition of *American Foreign Policy and Process* has been revised and updated and now covers policy and process developments through the Biden administration. The book is intended to serve as a comprehensive text for the first course in US foreign policy and as a supplemental text in a global politics or comparative foreign policy course where American actions are analyzed. It also remains appropriate as a ready reference for the first graduate course in the study of American foreign policy or the foreign policy process.

Values and beliefs remain as the basic organizing theme for the text because policy actions are always taken within a value context. Yet, this emphasis on values and beliefs is not necessarily presented in a way to promote a particular point of view. Instead, the intent is to portray how values and beliefs toward foreign affairs have changed over the course of the history of the republic and how US foreign policy has thus changed from its earliest years and through the Biden administration.

The text is again divided into three parts to accomplish this goal. In Part I, the first seven chapters of the volume, I provide an overview of the beliefs that have shaped American foreign policy throughout its history (Chapter 1), the Cold War years (Chapter 2), the post-Vietnam and the end of the Cold War (Chapters 3 and 4), the post-Cold War and immediate post-9/11 years (Chapter 5), the post-Great Recession and populist years (Chapter 6), and the current era (Chapter 7). In each of the chapters, I utilize a wide variety of foreign policy actions to illustrate the values and beliefs of the particular period and administration. In Part II, which consists of Chapters 8–13, I examine in some detail the policy-making process by identifying the role of various institutions and groups – the executive (Chapter 8), Congress (Chapter 9), several bureaucracies (Chapters 10 and 11), political parties, interest groups (Chapter 12), and the media and the

public at large (Chapter 13) – in that process and assess how each competes to promote its own values in American foreign policy. In each chapter, too, I evaluate the relative importance of these institutions and groups in the foreign policy process. In Part III, which consists of a single concluding chapter (Chapter 14), I discuss several foreign policy divisions – among America’s political elites or leaders, between the American public and their leaders, and the increasing polarization between the political parties – and the implications of such divisions for shaping American foreign policy in the future.

Those familiar with the earlier editions will immediately recognize both continuity and change compared with the sixth edition. Although Chapters 1–5 have largely remained intact from the previous edition, Chapter 6 now evaluates the Obama administration through its two terms and the Trump administration in its single term. Chapter 7 is a wholly new chapter focusing on the Biden administration, its approach, and its policy actions through almost the first two years in office. Chapters 8–13 reflect continuity in structure with chapters 7–12 from the previous edition, but each one has been carefully updated to reflect changes in actions of these important foreign policy institutions at home in each of the chapters. Chapter 14 (previously chapter 13) represents an update from the sixth edition to reflect the current changes in values and beliefs among leaders and the public on foreign policy and provide a set of alternative proposals for the way forward in addressing American foreign policy in the third decade and beyond of the twenty-first century.

The seventh edition has retained some of instructional features of previous editions, with a few changes to reflect increased currency of events and actions by administrations. Maps continue to be used frequently in Part I to assist students in locating various countries and regions as they are being discussed. The use of tables and figures throughout the chapters has been retained. A selected number of documents and document summaries are now used only for the most crucial pieces of historical items. The ones that have been retained ought to allow students to use these first-hand sources for more fully understanding American policy. Several of the tables and figures have been adjusted to reflect behavior up to the current period.

All notes for the chapters in *American Foreign Policy and Process*, seventh edition, may be found at www.cambridge.org/McCormick

In the course of completing the seventh edition, I have incurred a number of debts to individuals and institutions, and I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge my thanks to them publicly. First of all, several reviewers offered their comments and suggestions for improving the book

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by carefully reviewing the sixth edition. For their careful reviews and very helpful suggestions, I am most grateful. Some portions of Chapter 6 on the Obama administration's first term were previously published as part of a chapter in Steven E. Schier's *Transforming America*.

Second, colleagues in the Department of Political Science at Iowa State University provided support, especially as I sought to balance my teaching and research responsibilities and address some health issues. For their friendship and encouragement, I am most grateful. I am especially indebted to a former student in my US foreign policy class, Daniel Lee, for his superb assistance with the collection of various pieces of data to update several tables and for his comments on the new Chapters 6 and 7. I also wish to thank Ashley Harris for her help, on very short notice, with placing some pesky pieces of data in various tables and figures.

Third, I want to thank Cambridge University Press for its support and encouragement as I was completing the seventh edition. I particularly want to thank Robert Dressen, Executive Editor, Political Science, at Cambridge University Press for keeping me on schedule and my development editor, Chloe McLoughlin, for her assistance in getting the chapters ready for publication. I am also grateful to Ken Moxham for his careful and thorough copyediting and to Nicola Chapman for her excellent guidance through the production schedule.

Fourth, I am continuously in the debt of the thousands of students in my US Foreign Policy courses over the past five decades for their interest and patience in enduring many of the arguments presented here. Their questions and comments have been a source of both satisfaction and inspiration for me in my teaching these courses.

Finally, I want to thank Carol once again for listening so patiently – and continuously – as I sought to complete this edition. Unwittingly, her patience, her encouragement, and her suggestions enabled me to complete this edition.

All of these individuals and institutions (and others whom I may have inadvertently omitted) deserve my sincere thanks. As always, though, final responsibility for the book rests with me, and any errors of fact and interpretation are mine alone.